For Immediate Release: Friday, January 22, 2010

Contact: Nathan White, (202) 225-5871

Kucinich: Treasury Falling Short in Foreclosure Plan

Washington D.C. — Congressman Dennis Kucinich (D-OH), Chairman of the Domestic Policy Subcommittee, today sent a letter to Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner criticizing proposed changes, as reported by the New York Times, to the Home Affordable Modification Program (HAMP). The New York Times article indicates that Treasury will make changes in an effort to streamline paperwork.

"Treasury seems to be preoccupied with improving the appearance of HAMP, rather than its substance....

"Streamlining documentation requirements will have the effect of increasing the number of HAMP participants. But, allowing the kinds of paperwork reduction described in the Times article risks repeating the errors — such as "low doc" lending — that fueled the mortgage bubble in the first place. Furthermore, it does not improve the quality of HAMP's loan modifications: the sustainability of the modified loans and the permanence of those modifications," writes Kucinich in the letter.

###

Documents and Links

Letter from Subcommittee Chairman Dennis Kucinich to Treasury Secretary Geithner